

Urban Sanitary District  
OF  
TENTERDEN.

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ANNUAL REPORT  
ON THE HEALTH  
OF THE  
TENTERDEN URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT  
*IN THE YEAR*  
1900,

BY  
JAMES SCOTT TEW, M.D., D.H.P.

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**The Population** of the Borough of Tenterden was estimated by the method adopted by the Registrar-General to be **3,261** at the middle of 1900, showing a decrease of 18 since the middle of 1899.

It is somewhat doubtful if this steady, though small decrease is really going on, as during the last few years there have been a good many new houses erected and occupied, in the Borough, and it is very probable that the decrease which took place from 1881 to 1891, is not now maintained.

The correctness of the Vital Statistics is, however, not materially interfered with from this small possible error in the actual population, and it will be possible in the Annual Report for 1901 to use actual census figures.

Seventy-seven Births were registered, including 39 of males and 38 of females, and giving a **Birth-rate** of **23·6** per 1,000 of population, as compared with 25·6 in the previous year and 24·5 in 1898.

Seventy-two Deaths were returned which included 39 of males and 32 of females. Of the total 72 deaths, 18 occurred at the Tenterden Union Workhouse, 14 of which were those of persons not belonging to the Urban District.

Among the above deaths 30 had attained the age of 65 or upwards.

**The Death-rate** was **17·7** per 1,000 of population, as against 16·1 and 15·1 in the two previous years.

Of the total 72 deaths, one only was caused by one of the seven principal Zymotic Diseases, viz:—by Diphtheria. This occurred at the Union Workhouse in a non-resident.

**The Zymotic Death-rate** for the Borough was therefore **0·0**.

**The Infant Mortality**, *i.e.* the number of deaths amongst infants under one year of age per 1,000 registered births was **64** as compared with 107 in 1899 and 61 in 1898.

During the year 1900 the Birth-rate throughout England and Wales, was 28.9, the general death-rate 18.3 and the Zymotic death-rate 2.00 per 1,000 of population.

The rate of mortality amongst infants under one year of age to each 1,000 registered births was 154.

The Vital Statistics are of a particularly satisfactory character, the general death-rate and the infantile mortality being respectively .6 and 90 **below** that of the country generally.

The Zymotic death-rate of **nil** was also attained in the year 1897.

The birth-rate is exceptionally low, being 5.3 below that of the country generally, which for 1900 is the lowest on record. This is the only item of the statistics which cannot be regarded as satisfactory.

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

It may be noted that the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889, has by the Infectious Disease (Notification) Extension Act, 1899, (which came into operation on January 1st, 1900,) been made compulsory in every Urban, Rural and Port Sanitary District in England, and Wales.

Under these Acts, now together cited as the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Acts, 1889 and 1899, the extremely small number of 8 cases was reported during the year 1900, which consisted of 3 cases of Scarlet Fever, 2 of Diphtheria, 1 of Enteric Fever, and 2 of Erysipelas.

**Scarlet Fever.** All the 3 cases of this disease occurred in Bell's Lane, during the months of January, April and May and were in all probability due to personal infection.

**Diphtheria.** The first case of Diphtheria occurred in January, at one of an isolated pair of Cottages at Pick Hill, Smallhythe.

I made a detailed inspection of the premises on January 26th, and found the drainage and surroundings in an unsatisfactory condition, and all the family suffering more or less from sore throats. The owner was communicated with and the matter received early attention.

The drains, etc. were thoroughly disinfected, and the children excluded from school, and other precautions taken, which resulted in the disease being entirely confined to the one cottage.

The second case was that of a child from Rolvenden, aged 2 years, who was an inmate of the Union Workhouse, and succumbed to the disease on May 4th.

**Enteric Fever.** One case occurred at the Union Workhouse in May, that of an adult which recovered.

**Erysipelas.** One case occurred also at the Union Workhouse in April, and the remaining one (a child) was reported in August. No deaths occurred.

The Borough of Tenterden was entirely free from any infectious diseases during the months of February, March, June, July, September, October, November and December.

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## NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

No deaths were reported either from Measles, Whooping-cough or Diarrhœa, whilst Influenza was responsible for 2 deaths, one in January and the other in February. Both patients were over 65 years of age.

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

It was found necessary to close the National School, Tenterden, for 3 weeks, viz:—February 27th to March 23rd, on account of the prevalence of Mumps amongst the Scholars.

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## INSPECTIONS.

Several inspections were made by me during the year in addition to those connected with infectious disease.

It has not been found necessary to take any active measures with regard to bakehouses, dairies, cowsheds and milkshops or slaughterhouses, the condition of the existing premises being of a generally satisfactory character; neither has it been necessary to resort to legal proceedings to enforce the sanitary requirements, as these have in all cases been carried out on the necessity for action, being brought to the owner's notice.

Over-crowding is of uncommon occurrence and there is no necessity for the adoption of any part of the Housing of the Working Classes Act.

**Drainage.** The drainage system, although old, continues to work without blockage or nuisance, each of the effluents discharging at a distance from the main street on to actually agricultural land, the fall in all cases being very considerable.

The removal of excreta and scavenging is carried out privately and gives no trouble in the way of disposal.

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## WATER.

Gradually more houses are being connected with the public supply (the Cranbrook Water Company) and this has been a great boon to many, who were previously dependent on wells of doubtful quality.

The general condition of the Borough, at the end of the year, was extremely satisfactory, the absence of the actual Zymotic death-rate being a special feature.

The death of Mr. Joseph Skinner, at an advanced age, who for a number of years, had acted as Inspector of Nuisances, for the Borough of Tenterden, took place on January 7th, 1900. Mr. Skinner carried out the duties of his office in an exemplary manner, and put in force the necessary sanitary measures with a minimum of friction.

Mr. B. T. Goldsmith, Oak House, Tenterden, now carries on the duties of Inspector, and a record of the work carried out in his department, during the portion of the year for which he has acted is appended.

It will be noticed that the Statistical Tables at the end of this report, are somewhat different from those of former years. The four new tables have been issued by the Local Government Board in place of the two headed "A" and "B", which were until recently in use, with a view to facilitate record of a minimum amount of statistical information of the sort desired by the Board.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES SCOTT TEW.

## Sanitary Report for the Borough of Tenterden.

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*During the year ending 1900, 44 cases have been dealt with and 7 unfinished.*

Accumulations dealt with	...	...	2
Sinks drained to Sewer	...	...	7
New lengths of Sewer	...	...	7
Houses drained to Sewer	...	...	7
Sewer Gas Nuisances	...	...	
Drains obstructed	...	...	3
Drains repaired	...	...	3
Foul drains	...	..	
New drains	...	...	4
Water Closets connected	...	...	8
Water Closets obstructed	...	...	2
Pumps repaired	..	...	1
Unfinished	...	...	7

B T. GOLDSMITH,

Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE I.  
Tenterden Urban District.  
For Whole District.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL.		DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITU- TIONS.		DEATHS OF NON- RESIDENTS REGISTERED IN DISTRICT.		DEATHS OF RESIDENTS REGISTERED BEYOND DISTRICT.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. NETT.			
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13					
1898.	3297	81	24.5	5	61	61	18.8	15	11	...	50	15.1					
1899.	3279	84	25.6	10	107	59	17.9	8	6	...	53	16.1					
Averages for years 1898-1899.		82	25.0	7	84	60	18.3	11	8	...	51	15.6					
1900.	3261	77	23.6	5	64	72	22.0	18	14	...	58	17.7					

Area of District in acres  
(exclusive of area covered by water). } 8,490.

At Census of 1891 } 3,429

Number of inhabited houses 718

Average number of persons per house 4

TABLE II.  
Tenterden Urban District.

YEAR.	TENTERDEN URBAN.			
	a.	b.	c.	d.
1900 ...	3261	77	58	5

TABLE III.  
Tenterden Urban District.  
Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1900.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	At all Ages.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT				
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65
Small-pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria .....	2	...	...	2	...	...
Membranous croup .....	...	...	..	...	...	...
Erysipelas .....	2	...	...	1	...	1
Scarlet fever .....	3	...	...	2	1	...
Typhus fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever .....	1	...	...	...	1	...
Relapsing fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>

TABLE IV.  
Tenterden Urban District.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1900.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.							Deaths in Public Institu- tions.
	All ages.	Under 1	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	
Small-pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping cough.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and mem- branous croup	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Croup .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever { Typhus .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever { Enteric .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other continued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic influenza...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cholera .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other septic diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis .....	8	...	...	...	2	6	...	2
Other tubercular di- seases	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer, malignant di- ease	4	...	...	...	...	3	1	2
Bronchitis .....	10	1	3	...	...	3	3	1
Pneumonia .....	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Pleurisy .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other diseases of Res- piratory organs	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Alcoholism {	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Venereal diseases .....	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Premature birth .....	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases and accidents of parturition .....	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Heart diseases.....	13	...	1	...	...	4	8	2
Accidents.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Suicides .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All other causes .....	23	2	...	1	2	6	12	10
All causes .....	72	5	5	1	5	26	30	18



